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E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/15/2018 TAGS: <u>PREL PGOV EPET IZ EG</u> SUBJECT: FM ABOUL GHEIT ON IRAQ

REF: A. CAIRO 2156 ____B. BAGHDAD 3239

Classified By: Ambassador Margaret Scobey Reasons: 1.4 (B) and (D) 1.(C) FM Aboul Gheit discussed his visit to Iraq and preliminary plans to re-open the Egyptian embassy in Baghdad during an October 15 meeting

2.(C) Aboul Gheit said that the Egyptians had decided to locate the new Egyptian embassy near the American embassy due to security realities. F

3.(C) The Ambassador noted that the USG and Iraq are moving forward on status of forces (SOFA) talks. We anticipate a strong and negative Irani